

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1           1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for playing back data stored on an information recording medium, the data having audio information, visual information, or audio-visual information, the data containing a watermark, the apparatus comprising:
  - 4           a reproduction processing circuit configured to receive the information that is stored on the information recording medium to produce the data; and
  - 6           playback circuitry comprising:
    - 7           a data store ~~configured to receive a subset of the data;~~
    - 8           a data selection circuit configured to select a subset of the data which is necessary for the detection of the watermark and to store the subset of the data into the data store;
    - 11           a detecting circuit coupled to the data store and configured to process data contained therein to produce a detection result, the detection result being based on the watermark; and
    - 14           a control circuit configured to selectively output the data based on the detection result,
      - 16           wherein the data selection circuit and the detecting circuit operate in alternating fashion to alternate between storing a subset of the data to the data store and reading out the subset of the data for watermark detection.
- 1           2. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a data selection circuit configured to select a first subset of the data, the data selection circuit coupled to deliver the first subset to the data store, wherein the detecting circuit processes the first subset.

1                   3. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the capacity of  
2 the data store is equal to or greater than the minimum size of the first subset.

1                   4. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the detecting  
2 circuit is further configured to produce a signal indicating the completion of processing of the  
3 first subset, wherein the selection circuit selects, in response to the signal, a second subset of the  
4 data, and wherein the second subset replaces the first subset.

1                   5. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the detecting  
2 circuit is further configured to indicate that the first subset has been delivered to the data store,  
3 and wherein the selection circuit selects, in response thereto, a second subset from the data for  
4 delivery to the data store.

1                   6. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the data is an  
2 ISO-MPEG 2 formatted data stream, and wherein the first subset is an I-picture.

1                   7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further including a data bus coupled  
2 only between the detection circuit and the control circuit, wherein the detection circuit produces  
3 a signal representative of the detection result, the signal being sent to the control circuit via the  
4 data bus.

1                   8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the detection circuit produces  
2 a signal representative of the detection result, the detection circuit further configured to encode  
3 the signal using a decryption key, the control circuit further configured to receive the encoded  
4 signal and to decode the signal using the decryption key.

1                   9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the detection circuit produces  
2 a signal representative of the detection result, wherein the detection circuit and the control circuit  
3 are further configured to exchange authentication data with each other, and wherein the detection  
4 circuit is further configured to deliver the signal to the control circuit when the detection circuit  
5 makes a positive determination that the control circuit is permitted to receive the signal.

1           10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the detection circuit is further  
2 configured to encode the signal using the authentication data, and the control circuit is further  
3 configured to receive the encoded signal and to decode the signal using the authentication data.

1           11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the detection circuit produces  
2 a first signal when processing of data in the data store produces the detection result a first  
3 predetermined number of times in succession, the control circuit selectively outputting the first  
4 data in response to the signal.

1           12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the detection circuit,  
2 subsequent to producing the first signal, produces a second signal when processing of data in the  
3 data store produces a second detection result a second predetermined number of times in  
4 succession, the control circuit selectively outputting the first data in response to the first and  
5 second signals.

1           13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first data is ISO-MPEG 2  
2 formatted.

1           14. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the data store  
2 receives at least some of the data at a data rate equal to a data rate at which the reproduction  
3 processing circuit produces the data.

15. (Canceled)

1           16. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the data store  
2 receives a subset of the data at a first data rate equal to a data rate at which the reproduction  
3 processing circuit produces the data,  
4           wherein the detecting circuit is further configured to indicate a second data rate  
5 and the data store is further configured to output the data contained therein at the second data  
6 rate in response thereto.

1           17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the detecting circuit is further  
2 configured to receive data contained in the data store at a third data rate and process the data to  
3 produce a detection result at a fourth data rate, wherein the fourth data rate is equal to or greater  
4 than the third data rate.

1           18. (Currently amended) An apparatus for playing back data stored on an  
2 information recording medium, the data containing a watermark, the apparatus comprising:

3           a reproduction processing circuit configured to receive the information that is  
4 stored on the information recording medium to produce the data; and

5           playback circuitry comprising:

6           a data store ~~configured to receive a subset of the data;~~

7           a data selection circuit configured to select a subset of the data which is  
8 necessary for the detection of the watermark and to store the subset of the data into the  
9 data store;

10           a detecting circuit coupled to the data store and configured to process data  
11 contained therein to produce a detection result, the detection result being based on the  
12 watermark; and

13           a control circuit configured to selectively output the first data based on the  
14 detection result and the type of the information recording medium,

15           wherein the data selection circuit and the detecting circuit operate in  
16 alternating fashion to alternate between storing a subset of the data to the data store and  
17 reading out the subset of the data for watermark detection.

1           19. (Currently amended) A method in a playback device for playing back  
2 data, the data having audio information, visual information, or audio-visual information, the data  
3 containing a watermark, the method comprising:

4           receiving the data from the information recording medium;

5           selecting a subset of the data which is necessary for the detection of the  
6 watermark;

7                   storing the subset of the data a playback component of the playback device  
8                   storing the data in a data store;  
9                    the playback component producing a detection result by processing data in the  
10                  data store, the detection result based on the watermark; [[and]]  
11                  the playback component selectively outputting the data based on the detection  
12                  result; and  
13                  reading out the subset of the data,  
14                  wherein the storing the subset of the data and the reading out the subset of the  
15                  data operates in alternating fashion for watermark detection.

1                   20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein selectively outputting is  
2                  further based on the type of the data source.

1                   21. (Currently amended) An apparatus for playing back data having audio  
2                  information, visual information, or audio-visual information, the data containing a watermark,  
3                  the apparatus comprising:  
4                  first means for providing the data from an information recording medium; and  
5                  a playback component comprising:  
6                  second means, coupled to the first means, for storing a subset of the first  
7                  data which is necessary for the detection of the watermark into a data store;  
8                  third means for producing a detection result, including means for  
9                  processing data stored in the second means, the detection result being based on the  
10                 watermark; and  
11                 fourth means, operatively coupled to the third means, for selectively  
12                 outputting the data based on the detection result,  
13                 wherein the second means and the third means operate in alternating  
14                 fashion to alternate between storing a subset of the data to the data store and reading out  
15                 the subset of the data for watermark detection.

22-28. (Canceled)

1                   29. (Currently amended) An apparatus for playing back data having audio  
2 information, visual information, or audio-visual information, the data containing a watermark  
3 and stored in an information storage medium, the apparatus comprising:

4                   a reproduction processing circuit configured to receive information stored on the  
5 information recording medium; and

6                   playback circuitry to reproduce the data containing the watermark, the playback  
7 circuitry comprising:

8                   a detecting circuit configured to detect the watermark;

9                   a data selection circuit configured to select a subset of the data which is  
10 necessary for the detection of the watermark;

11                   a data store configured to store the subset; and

12                   a reproduction control circuit configured to control the reproduction of the  
13 data[[,]] depending upon a result of the detection of the watermark by the detecting  
14 circuit,

15                   wherein the data store is shared by the reproduction processing circuit and  
16 the detecting circuit,

17                   wherein the data selection circuit and the detecting circuit operate in  
18                   alternating fashion to alternate between storing a subset of the data to the data store and  
19                   reading out the subset of the data for watermark detection.

1                   30. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the watermark  
2 represents copyright protection information on the data.

1                   31. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the watermark  
2 represents copyright protection information on the data.

1                   32. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the watermark  
2 represents copyright protection information on the data.